

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/866,668

Examiner

Andrew L Nalven

Applicant(s)

IGARASHI, TOSHIAKI

Art Unit

2134

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to reply to restriction requirement submitted 12/6/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-49.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael K. O'Neill (Reg #32,622) on 3 March 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 50-53 are canceled.

Claim 18. A computer readable storage medium including a program stored thereon, said program being executed by a computer to communicate with an information processing device and a network device via a network and manage the network device in response to a request from the information processing device, said program comprising:

a process execution request receiving step, of receiving, from the information processing device, a request for execution of a process upon the network device, where execution of the process needs particular permission;

a determining step, of determining whether a command to invalidate a password of the network device has been received together with the process execution request; and

an invalidation request transmission step, in which, when it has been determined in said determining step that the command has been received, an invalidation request to invalidate the password of the network device is transmitted to the network device.

Claim 19. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 18, said program executed by the computer further comprising:

an invalidation determining step, of determining whether the password of the network device has been invalidated in response to the invalidation request, and

an execution step, in which, when it has been determined in said invalidation determining step that the invalidation has been performed, the process which needs particular permission is executed.

Claim 20. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 19, wherein, in a case where it has been determined in said invalidation determining step that the invalidation has not been performed, error handling is executed in said execution step.

Claim 21. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 20, wherein, in a case where it has been determined in said invalidation determining step that the

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invalidation has not been performed, said execution step includes advising the information processing device that the invalidation has not been performed.

Claim 22. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 19, wherein said execution step includes making an SNMP agent running on the network device perform the process which needs the particular permission, using an SNMP protocol, and in said invalidation request transmission step, the invalidation request is transmitted, using the SNMP protocol, to the SNMP agent operating on the network device.

Claim 23. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 18, said program executed by the computer further comprising an input request transmitting step, in which, when it has been determined in said determining step that the command has not been received, a request for inputting of a password is transmitted to the information processing device.

Claim 24. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 23, said program executed by the computer further comprising a determining step, of determining whether a password transmitted in response to the input request and a password of the network device are consistent with each other.

Claim 25. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 18, wherein, in said process execution request receiving step, the process execution request is received from a WWW browser operating on the information processing device, via a WWW server operating in the network management device.

Claim 26. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 18, said program executed by the computer further comprising an information transmitting step, of transmitting information to the information processing device to display a screen on a display of the information processing device so that a command to perform a process which needs the particular permission can be input via the screen.

Claim 27. A computer readable storage medium including a program stored thereon, said program being executed by a computer to communicate with an information processing device and a network device via a network and manage the network device in response to a request from the information processing device, said program comprising:

a process execution request receiving step, of receiving, from the information processing device, a request for execution of a process upon the network device, where execution of the process needs particular permission;

a determining step, of determining whether a command to ignore a password of the network device has been received together with the process execution request, and

an execution step, in which, when it has been determined in said determining step that the command has been received, the password of the network device is ignored and the process which needs particular permission is executed.

Claim 28. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 27, wherein said execution step includes making an SNMP agent running on the network device perform the process which needs the particular permission, using an SNMP protocol.

Claim 29. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 27, said program executed by the computer further comprising an input request transmitting step, in which, when it has been determined in said determining step that the command has not been received, a request for inputting of a password is transmitted to the information processing device.

Claim 30. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 29, said program executed by the computer further comprising a determining step, of determining whether a password transmitted in response to the input request and a password of the network device are consistent with each other.

Claim 31. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 27, wherein, in said process execution request receiving step, the process execution request is

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received from a WWW browser operating on the information processing device, via a WWW server operating in the network management device.

Claim 32. A computer readable storage medium according to Claim 27, said program executed by the computer further comprising an information transmitting step, of transmitting information to the information processing device to display a screen on a display of the information processing device so that a command to perform a process which needs the particular permission can be input via the screen.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

3. The closest prior art, Martin et al US Patent No. 5,720,015, teaches a method for providing remote printer resources. Martin teaches process execution request receiving means for receiving, from the information-processing device, a request for execution of a process upon the network device, where execution of the process needs particular permission (Martin, column 5 lines 38-67). Martin fails to teach determining means for determining if a command to invalidate or ignore a password has been received along with a process execution request. As such, Martin and the remaining cited prior art references fail to anticipated or render obvious claims 1-49.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew L Nalven whose telephone number is 571 272 3839. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8-6, Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Morse can be reached on 571 272 3838. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Andrew Nalven



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Gregory Morse